

The State Journal

Official Paper of the City of Topeka.

By FRANK P. MACLENNAN.

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GREATEST IN KANSAS.

AVERAGE DAILY CIRCULATION:
8,806

For the three full summer months of 1894—an increase of over fifty per cent in one year.

OUR PROOF:

The lowest of the TOPEKA DAILY STATE JOURNAL for the three months, viz., from the 1st day of June, 1894, to the 1st day of August, 1894, inclusive, have been as follows:

DAY	June	July	August
1	8,309	8,729	8,650
2	8,312	8,730	8,650
3	8,315	8,731	8,650
4	8,318	8,732	8,650
5	8,321	8,733	8,650
6	8,324	8,734	8,650
7	8,327	8,735	8,650
8	8,330	8,736	8,650
9	8,333	8,737	8,650
10	8,336	8,738	8,650
11	8,339	8,739	8,650
12	8,342	8,740	8,650
13	8,345	8,741	8,650
14	8,348	8,742	8,650
15	8,351	8,743	8,650
16	8,354	8,744	8,650
17	8,357	8,745	8,650
18	8,360	8,746	8,650
19	8,363	8,747	8,650
20	8,366	8,748	8,650
21	8,369	8,749	8,650
22	8,372	8,750	8,650
23	8,375	8,751	8,650
24	8,378	8,752	8,650
25	8,381	8,753	8,650
26	8,384	8,754	8,650
27	8,387	8,755	8,650
28	8,390	8,756	8,650
29	8,393	8,757	8,650
30	8,396	8,758	8,650
31	8,399	8,759	8,650
Totals	252,208	241,173	231,099

*Sunday: no issue.

The total number of copies printed in the three months named above, 695,673, divided by 79, the number of issues, shows the average to be 8,806. This is a correct report of the issues of the TOPEKA DAILY STATE JOURNAL for the three months as stated.

(Signed) *Frank P. MacLennan*
Editor and Proprietor.

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Weather Indications.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24. Forecast for Kansas: Fair and slightly cooler tonight; Tuesday fair; northwest winds.

It is announced that a bill will be presented to the legislature this winter providing for the cure of habitual drunkenness at state expense. On the theory that inebriety is a species of insanity this would perhaps be the correct thing to do. The state takes charge of its insane and cures them when it can and sends them home.

While meetings are being held and irrigation laws are being talked of and arrangements are being made to secure an appropriation for experiments, real practical irrigation is going forward in various parts of the state. This is notably true in Dickinson county. N. G. Hershey of Belle Springs is preparing to follow the lead of Chris Hoffman and will irrigate fifteen acres next year.

Another Hillman case is brewing at Kansas City. The insurance companies which had written policies to the amount of \$43,000 on the life of the missing Dr. Frazer refuse to pay the claims and have appealed the case to the supreme court. The present generation of claimants will all be in the happy hunting ground before the matter is finally decided. Courts seem to be often as useful for preventing the settlement of controversies as settling them.

The Atchison Globe favors the plan first published in the State Journal for reducing the number of district judges in Kansas by reapportioning the judicial districts. The Globe says:

"If the Republicans desire to keep the Populists out of power in Kansas, the best way to do it is to adopt needed reforms in a practical, common sense way. Nothing the legislature can do this winter will prove more popular than a reduction of the number of district judges. We have too much litigation, and litigation is encouraged by too many judges. The court costs in every county in the state are simply disgraceful; not half the suits would be filed if they were not so easily tried. The country is full of young lawyers willing to take any case for 'practice.' Thousands of the courts are annoyed and dragged from their work by the accommodation of these young upstarts. An overworked judge is more apt to throw these manufactured cases out of court than one who is compelled to make a showing of being busy. Many cases brought into court on the slightest pretext are very silly and expensive business, and every one of these cases is an extravagant expense to the public."

Window Glass at Holme's Drug Store.

CHRISTMAS IS HERE.

"Christmas is at hand." There is more universal joy encompassed in the quotation marks above than there is in the universe of existence outside of them?

No matter how old you are, no matter if you have reached the age when to smile is undignified, no matter if you have reached that regretted period in life when romance is almost a bore, you are still as happy over Christmas as though you were still young enough to hang up your stockings with a note on it and believe that glorious old story about Santa Claus.

Christmas is the day on which we forget every one of the vexing troubles of the world; at least we ought to.

Christmas is the day on which we forgive our enemies—for the day. It is the day on which we forget we have to work—provided we don't have to work. It is the day on which we make as many people happy as we possibly can—not forgetting, of course, ourselves first.

Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and birthday are rolled into one grand bundle and magnified on Christmas.

And yet even Christmas has its drawbacks.

You remember how "broke" you were for a time after last Christmas. And yet you don't seem to care if it is repeated this Christmas, as it probably will be.

Nearly all this week you have been down town with the pushing, pulling, hurrying, uncertain crowd elbowing your way to windows and into stores, spending twenty dollars' worth of time to buy five dollars' worth of presents that are unsatisfactory to you after you have bought them.

You have not been alone though. At least fifteen thousand people in Topeka have been doing the same thing for two weeks and are not done yet. Tonight they will all be down at once and you will have difficulty in getting anywhere. The stores will be packed and the poor tired clerks will be ready to drop from exhaustion when they start home for the rest they need so much.

The children are out, too. They have been promised good things on Christmas all the year if they would behave and they are expecting them. Of course they have behaved.

They want to give, too, and they are going to do it. Some, nice presents which they will buy with money their parents have given them and some with money they have earned themselves. The latter are the happier.

How can they wait till evening for the Christmas trees? How can they wait till Christmas morning to open their stockings and pour out the good things that are bound to be there?

It is a day of laughter with them and it is indeed a hardened man or woman who would not join them in it. Make Christmas a day of peace on earth and good will to men.

KANSAS PARAGRAPHS.

A Wellington minister delivered a sermon on the subject, "The Modern Bull Room, or a Spade is a Spade."

Society member from Bardick: "Two more ladies will arrive before Christmas. Good for the boys."

Williamsburg people who know how to have a good time are going to have a racing bee on Christmas day.

A constantly increasing demand has compelled Harper county to build a poorhouse. It will be done about January 1st.

Dillon social item in Hope Crescent: The semi-annual quarrel as to who would play the organ in one of our churches, was celebrated Sunday.

They have been shipping sand out of Lawrence. Disappointed football enthusiasts find in this fact some explanation for their lost hopes.

A pet crow has been doing all sorts of mischievous things at Oage City. It was generally supposed that all those birds had been eaten long ago.

An Atchison dentist is going to give his girl a set of false teeth for Christmas. He thinks that will make her mighty slow to break the engagement and return his presents.

Tipton has organized a vigilance committee, and received a box of firearms and ammunition. It is prepared to extend the courtesies to all bank robbers and burglars that may call.

St. Scott is all excitement over a vicious cow that is in the stock yards there. They broke her horns off at the roots to tame her, and now wonder why she doesn't get kind and gentle.

The Atchison Globe is making a fight on the issuing of street railroad passes. The fight is all right enough, but the street railroad that has enough generosity to do such a thing should be carefully preserved as a curiosity.

"The Dumb Chorus" or the Football Eleven" was a feature in an entertainment at Abilene. It was considered a novel thing as being the only case where anything like football was ever enacted without noise.

The Salina thief who stole seventeen pairs of trousers and got eighteen months in the penitentiary shouldn't feel so bad about it. There are a whole lot of people who work six months to save money enough to get one pair and then have to get them on time.

College students are the very last ones ever to feel the effects of pinching want or corroding care. A junior at the College of Emporia rode to the train in a hack when he left for his vacation and a sophomore. In the same institution hired his grip carried to the train.

Atchison Globe: Harry Jordan, of the Seneca Tribune, was in Washington when Garfield was assassinated, and in France when President Carnot was murdered. He is such a hoodoo that his movements are watched, and when he goes to Topeka, a lot of big feeling politicians make it a point to be away from home.

Holiday Presents
In great variety. Vases, Cups, Saucers, Fancy Plates, Carving Sets, Nut Crackers and Picks, Chocolate Pots, etc. J. W. Farnsworth, 503 Kansas avenue.

We put on new neckbands on shirts Peerless Steam Laundry, 113 and 114 West Eighth street.

ON THE GREAT RIVER

ST. LOUIS AND THE MIGHTY WATERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

A River Man's Doleful View—Changes Wrought by the Railroad—A Morning at the Levee—The Canal Traffic—Interference of Bridges With Navigation.

[Special Correspondence.]

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 20.—It is with the greatest reluctance that old time river men are giving up their pet notion that without a booming traffic on the Mississippi their loved city of St. Louis must inevitably go to the bowwows. It is of no use to point out to them that the town is now getting along very well with the railroads, or that it has so far ridden the waves of the present financial difficulties better than most other cities. The river men insist that without a big river business St. Louis will never reach her possibilities. This is not a surprising thing, since it was not until the decline of river navigation that Chicago, with its ever growing lake business, began to forge mightily to the front in the race for commercial supremacy and size. There are many, it is true, among the business men here who believe that the railroads are now doing almost as much for the town as the river could, but the majority of these men are young and were never inoculated with the fever of river adoration. It would be hard indeed to find among the older business men any who are in a measure even reconciled to the decline of business on the imperial stream. If you so much as mention such an idea to an old river man, you will be treated to a burst of genuine indignation that would make it impossible for you to enter into any argument whatever in controversy of his views. The first man to whom I spoke upon this topic was aflame in an instant.

The Wall of an Old River Man.
"The river's place taken by the railroads!" he exclaimed. "Yes, so it is for all purposes but that of patiently bearing great hulking barges of coal down stream and for a few other despised sorts of traffic that it doesn't pay the accursed railroads to do. But the palmy days of the river have gone, as everybody knows, and with them forever the chance of commercial supremacy on the part of St. Louis. The river loved St. Louis as the railroads do not. The river gave as well as received. While the river was busy St. Louis distanced all her western rivals. St. Louis was then dominant. Now what is she doing?"

These ferryboats are queer craft in the eyes of any one not familiar with them. Their smokestacks are on one side, their exhaust pipes on the other, and they present a decidedly one sided appearance when approaching head on. The engine of a St. Louis ferryboat is of a type never seen away from western rivers, the cylinder being 8 or 10 feet long and not more than 20 inches or 2 feet in diameter. The engine is of the horizontal type, and the "arm"—connecting rod—it would be termed elsewhere—is generally of wood and very large and heavy. The hull of the boat is built double aft, and the single small wheel lies between the two parts aft of the bifurcation. The chief business of these boats is the transportation of the soft coal of the Illinois mines to St. Louis.

This coal is loaded upon immense coal wagons on the Illinois side of the river and hauled to and upon the boats, which, when all the deck space is occupied, make for the Missouri shore. The horses that haul the wagons are heavy draft animals of a mixed breed, a pair of which is capable of hauling an immense load, but not powerful enough to haul one of these big wagons up the steep incline of the levee. Accordingly when the wagons are got off the boat extra horses, sometimes one pair, sometimes two, are attached, and then with much creaking of wheels, snapping of long, heavy whips, swearing of drivers and occasional falling of horses to their knees the heavy load is dragged to the level of the street above.

There was nothing doing on the levee during the several hours I devoted to it beyond the arrival and departure of these coal wagons laden from below, but it must not be understood that because the river is practically idle just now it has no traffic whatever. On the contrary, its traffic is very large in the aggregate, only seeming insignificant because it is much less now than it was in the old boom days.

Mississippi Tonnage at St. Louis.
I have not at command the figures of any of the rushing years, but in 1893 the total was more than 1,100,000 tons. In 1892 the total was 1,189,415 tons; in 1891, 1,036,305. It would take a large fleet of lake steamers to handle this amount of freight every year, and there are now employed in the traffic some thousands of persons. It is, moreover, confidently expected that when the operations at present under way for the improvement of the channel shall become effective the total annual tonnage will be vastly increased.

M. I. DEXTER.

Countess Oyama.

Countess Oyama, the wife of Field Marshal Count Oyama, who is commanding the second Japanese army in the vicinity of Port Arthur, is described as one of the most charming and accomplished ladies of Japan. She was educated in an American college, either Wellesley or Vassar, and speaks English fluently. She was one of the lady commissioners appointed by the empress of Japan to gather and send an exhibit to the World's fair.

A FREE LANCE IN POLITICS.

The Picturesque and Interesting Career of Carl Schurz.

Carl Schurz, who has been re-elected president of the National Civil Service Reform league, is a pioneer and has long been one of the foremost leaders in the reform. As secretary of the interior he introduced competitive examinations, and since retiring from the cabinet of President Hayes in 1881 he has labored actively with voice and pen for the promotion of the movement.

Carl Schurz has had a singularly eventful and interesting career. Born near Cologne, Prussia, March 2, 1829, he was educated in the University of Bonn and early took an active interest in politics. He was such an ardent reformer that he joined the revolutionists and was soon compelled to flee from his native land. He went to Paris, thence to London and finally came to America in 1853. He located first in Philadelphia and a few years later moved to Wisconsin. There he joined the Repub-



CARL SCHURZ.

lican party, then in his infancy, and soon gained great political influence with his German fellow citizens. He soon acquired good command of the English language and was a power on the stump in the memorable campaign of 1860.

President Lincoln made him minister to Spain, but he resigned in 1862 to enter the Federal army as brigadier general of volunteers. He was made a major general in 1863 and served with distinction in the second battle of Bull Run and at Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Fredericksburg and Chattanooga.

Schurz's political affiliations have been various. He served as a Republican United States senator from Missouri from 1869 to 1875. He was temporary chairman of the convention that nominated General Grant for president in 1868, and four years later he presided over the convention that nominated Greeley. In 1876 he supported Hayes, and he served four years in the cabinet of that president. He supported Garfield in 1880 and Cleveland in 1884, 1888 and 1892. His last vote, in November, 1894, was cast against the Democrats, but with which party he will be identified in the next campaign is one of the problems of politics.

Since his retirement from office Mr. Schurz has lived in New York city. For three years he edited The Evening Post and is now interested in one of the German-American steamship lines.

AMBRIM'S ACTIVE VOLCANO.

The Island Belongs to a Group Noted For Making Sudden Disappearances.

Ambrim, one of the New Hebrides islands in the southern Pacific, was recently destroyed by an earthquake and volcanic disturbances. On Nov. 13 an earthquake shook the island to its remotest foundations, and an entire village, inhabitants and all, was cast into the sea. A volcano became suddenly active, and a great stream of lava rushed across the island a stream of fire and plunged into the sea, causing a dense pillar of steam to rise thousands of feet into the air. These islands have long been noted for their now-you-see-me-and-now-you-don't character. In 1871 Aurora, one of the most fertile islands of the group and some 36 miles long and five miles broad, suddenly sank into the sea, leaving no trace of its existence.

Ambrim is or was 50 miles in circumference, and was fertile and well cultivated. It had become celebrated for its excellent coffee. The center of the island is now a mass of lava, and the crater of the active volcano is a mile in diameter.



AMBRIM, THE ISLAND DESTROYED BY THE VOLCANO.

eter and 1,000 feet deep, according to the calculations of the officers of her majesty's steamship Dart, who witnessed the eruption and later ventured to visit the scene of the outbreak. In 1856 the volcano was active, and it then had a height of some 3,500 feet.

According to the last census, there are about 20 islands in the New Hebrides group. One of the curiosities of the islands is a peculiar species of hog, which, when full grown, is no larger than an ordinary rabbit. The natives, who belong to the Papuan negro race, are less intelligent than the majority of South Sea islanders and are addicted to cannibalism. The group was discovered by Quiros in 1606, but he saw only one island, which he named Austrin del Espiritu Santo. Cook discovered the greater part of the entire group in 1773 and gave the islands the name they now bear. Erromango, one of the most southerly islands, was the scene of the murder of the well-known missionary, Rev. John Williams, in 1839.

AN IVY LEAF.

Placed Upon Longfellow's Bust in Westminster Abbey.

The great love which Americans bear for the memory of Henry W. Longfellow is shown constantly by little acts at his burial place and at his home. In Poet's Corner in Westminster abbey is a bust of the American poet. It is an object of the deepest interest to all American visitors to the abbey, and every one in a while the vergers find fastened to it sheets of paper on which quotations from the poet's best known works are written. These are renewed regularly and destroyed. In August last some one left a tribute to the poet which the attendant did not remove, and which will probably remain where it is.

It is an ordinary sheet of note paper, to which is pinned a large ivy leaf. Under the leaf is written in a strong hand, evidently a woman's: "Brought by loving hands, many, many miles across the sea, from a spot he well loved." Underneath is written a quotation from Browning: "God's in his heaven, all's well with the world." The dates July 10 and August 5 follow, signifying in all probabilities the time of the placing of the leaf and its being placed in the abbey.

Thousands of visiting Americans have read the little tribute, and the vergers in the abbey guard the paper and leaf zealously. No one connected with the abbey remembers having seen the paper and leaf placed where it is, but the attendants say it appeared there on the afternoon of August 5.

HOW FISH BREATHE.

They Require But the Minimum of Oxygen to Keep Up Temperature.

The gills of the fish are situated at the back part of the sides of the head and consist of a number of vascular membranes, which are generally arranged in double, fringed rows, attached to the parts by the base only. In some cases these membranes are feather-shaped; in others, mere folds attached to the sides of the gill cavities. The fish is a cold-blooded animal; that is to say its temperature is seldom more than a degree or two higher than the water in which it lives. This being true, the creature needs but a very small amount of oxygen to keep the blood at a temperature sufficiently high to sustain life. This oxygen is supplied to the blood of the fish by respiring large quantities of water or, rather, drinking large quantities of water, and respiring the air separated from it by the gills. This explains why a fish cannot live in a tank of water which has been sifted through the gills time and time again any better than a human being or other animal can in air that has been deprived of all its oxygen by being taken into lungs and expelled without being aerated. Fish that die in the stale water of aquariums may be properly said to drown, because they perish for want of air, the same thing which occasions death by drowning in man and other long-breathing animals.

TOOK THE OATH ABROAD.

William Rufus King Who Was Running Mate With Franklin Pierce.

William Rufus King, born April 8, 1786; died April 18, 1853, was a vice president of the United States who never served in that capacity, and one who took the oath of office on foreign soil—something which can be said of no other executive officer elected by the people of this country. King was an invalid, but his friends urged him to take second place on the ticket with Pierce in 1852. Both were elected, but Mr. King's health failed so rapidly that he was forced to go to Cuba early in 1853, some two and a half months before inauguration day. Not having returned to the United States by March 4, congress passed a special act authorizing the United States consul at Mantanzas, Cuba, to swear him in as vice president at about the hour when Pierce was taking the oath of office at Washington. This arrangement was carried out to a dot, and on the day appointed, at a plantation on one of the highest hills of Mantanzas, Mr. King was made vice president of the United States amid the solemn "Vaya vol, con Dios" (God be with you) of the creoles who had assembled to witness the unique spectacle. Vice President King returned to his home at Cahawba, Ala., arriving at that place on April 17, 1853, and died on the following day. His remains were laid to rest on his plantation, known as "Pine Hills."

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New Year's Day
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